



25th Masonic District

“Kenny Gifford” Traveling Gavel Rules

1. Your visit to claim the Traveling Gavel **must** occur at a **Stated Meeting** of the Lodge possessing the gavel. Inspections and other special events **do not** qualify for the purpose of attaining possession of the gavel.
2. You must have **ALL** Officer positions filled to close the Host Lodge’s meeting. This includes the following positions:

Worshipful Master
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Secretary

Treasurer
Senior Deacon
Junior Deacon
Senior Steward

Junior Steward
Chaplain
Tyler
Lodge Education Officer

NOTES

- Note 1: If your Lodge has a Brother serving in two (2) capacities (such as Secretary and LEO), it **is not** necessary for your Lodge to “recruit” another Brother to fill one of those positions for the night to attain possession of the gavel.
- Note 2: If your Lodge has a vacancy (such as Junior Steward), it **is** necessary that a Brother be recruited to fill the position for the night.
3. A courtesy phone call should be made to the Worshipful Master of the Lodge possessing the gavel by the Worshipful Master(s) of the Lodge(s) intending to gain possession of the gavel so that the stated meeting of the Host Lodge is not unduly disrupted by the arrival of unannounced visitors. Every effort needs to be made by the Host Lodge to insure that the visit to claim the gavel is not canceled or postponed due to the business needing to be conducted by the Host Lodge.
 4. Should two (2) or more Lodges plan to attend the Host Lodge on the same night, there should be **no mention of this** by the Master of the Host Lodge to the Masters of the visiting Lodges. *(Let’s keep the competition honest and fun here!)*. The method of determining which Lodge would actually take possession of the gavel is explained below *(see Formula for Determining Possession)*.
 5. The Secretary of the Lodge that possesses the gavel is responsible for the safekeeping of the gavel while in the Lodge’s possession. The gavel should be “available” at all stated meetings so that it may be passed on immediately on the night of a visit. The Secretary of the Lodge possessing the gavel is also responsible for contacting the Secretary of Temple Lodge No. 28 when the gavel comes into the Lodge’s possession so that the Traveling Gavel Plaque can be updated with the Lodge Name and Number and the date on which it came into the Lodge’s possession, and also for generally keeping track on the whereabouts of the gavel should any Lodge inquire as to it’s current location.
 6. Temple Lodge No. 28 will have a permanent plaque on display listing all of the Lodges that have possessed the Traveling Gavel, and the date on which it transferred from Lodge to Lodge.

7. At the end of the stated meeting of the Host Lodge on a night when the gavel will change hands, the Master of the Host Lodge will invite the Master of the Visiting Lodge to the East and present the Traveling Gavel and a copy of these rules to him. At this point, the Visiting Master will have his officers assume their respective positions within the Lodge, and proceed to close the Lodge that they are visiting in the required form as prescribed by the Code. *(It is hoped that after the Lodge is closed that the members of both Lodges would then be able to enjoy the fellowship of one another for the balance of the evening.)*

Formula For Determining Possession

(If two (2) or more Lodges show up on the same night)

- Step 1: You receive (1) point for every member that travels to the Lodge possessing the gavel.
- Step 2: Multiply the points accumulated above in step one (1) by the mileage from your Lodge to the Lodge possessing the gavel using the 25th Masonic District Traveling Gavel Mileage Chart found on page 3 of these rules.
- Step 3: Take the total from step two (2) and add the following "points" for any Brother traveling with you. *(Take the highest point value only for each member. Example: Every Candidate qualifies as a first time visitor which is 50 points. He would also qualify for the 200 points, but only if the Host Lodge confers one of the Degrees on a candidate, which the visiting Lodge's Candidate has already received. Therefore, you only take the 200 points for bringing a candidate and not the 50 points for a first time visitor. So his point value would be 200 and not 250 because you are taking the highest point value for that member. If no Degree is being conferred that night by the Host Lodge, then your Candidate only receives 50 points.)*
- 50 Points: For any first time visitor to the Host Lodge from the Visiting Lodge.
 - 100 Points: For any "newly raised" Master Mason. (**Must** have been raised within the last year from the date of the visit.)
 - 200 Points: Taken **only** if a degree is being conferred by the Host Lodge, for any Candidate of the Traveling Lodge, who would be there to witness any of the Degrees he has been through as part of the "Counseling" process, should such a Degree be presented as part of the Stated Meeting of the Host Lodge.
- Step 4: Add up the total number of points earned for the Visiting Lodge's members as described above. The highest total gets possession of the gavel.
- Step 5: In the event that two (2) Lodges would have the same point total, the tie breaker would be as follows:
- The Lodge having appeared on the Tyler's register as being **completely signed in first** gets to claim possession.

A copy of these rules are to be presented with the Gavel

	C. F. Clapp 655	Charity 530	Copper Penny 778	Cortland 529	Evergreen 222	Garrettsville 246	Geneva 334	Gustavus 442	Hart's Grove 397	Jerusalem 19	Lakeshore 307	Mantua 533	Newton Falls 462	Niles-McKinley 794	Old Erie 3	Orion 353	Relief 284	Rising Sun 22	Rockton 316	Temple 28	Triandria 780	Tuscan 342	Unity 12	Village 274	Western Phoenix 42	Western Reserve 507	William Farr 672	Willoughby 302	W.K. Ricksecker 606
C. F. Clapp 655	0	24	8	10	59	18	59	20	30	16	44	28	8	10	0	52	47	49	31	51	30	40	24	25	17	16	10	58	38
Charity 530	24	0	32	39	87	17	62	49	49	40	56	25	16	25	24	78	75	77	23	59	50	67	15	40	28	28	25	58	30
Copper Penny 778	8	32	0	9	60	28	59	17	50	9	49	47	22	6	8	53	47	50	46	59	40	40	40	35	29	25	6	70	40
Cortland 529	10	39	9	0	52	26	50	13	31	9	54	37	20	13	10	42	38	40	54	49	31	31	33	33	23	19	13	65	37
Evergreen 222	59	87	60	52	0	64	27	35	47	45	31	71	69	61	59	9	14	16	91	42	29	21	80	55	58	59	61	52	82
Garrettsville 246	18	17	28	26	64	0	42	35	36	31	35	9	11	29	18	58	58	55	21	38	35	46	13	15	7	13	29	49	14
Geneva 334	59	62	59	50	27	42	0	46	14	57	7	49	50	60	59	20	27	10	68	20	16	24	57	31	35	36	60	30	57
Gustavus 442	20	49	17	13	35	35	46	0	29	9	50	44	31	23	20	29	23	37	64	62	28	28	57	36	36	23	23	53	50
Hart's Grove 397	30	49	50	31	47	36	14	29	0	48	25	42	30	43	30	38	37	31	58	19	15	26	49	28	32	16	43	36	47
Jerusalem 19	16	40	9	9	45	31	57	9	48	0	61	52	37	16	16	51	31	49	55	56	38	39	48	40	32	26	16	66	42
Lakeshore 307	44	56	63	54	31	35	7	50	25	61	0	39	43	56	44	28	31	16	62	11	20	17	51	26	28	29	56	21	53
Mantua 533	28	25	47	37	71	9	49	44	42	52	39	0	23	39	28	68	65	71	13	36	46	58	10	17	16	21	39	42	10
Newton Falls 462	8	16	22	20	69	11	50	31	30	37	43	23	0	23	8	55	54	59	23	44	38	50	15	25	16	16	23	60	31
Niles-McKinley 794	10	25	6	13	61	29	60	23	43	16	56	39	23	0	10	54	48	51	41	56	43	42	33	36	28	26	0	70	47
Old Erie 3	0	24	8	10	59	18	59	20	30	16	44	28	8	10	0	52	47	49	31	51	30	40	24	25	17	16	10	58	38
Orion 353	52	78	53	42	9	58	20	29	38	51	28	68	55	54	52	0	10	16	88	40	19	10	80	48	55	46	54	50	79
Relief 284	47	75	47	38	14	58	27	23	37	31	31	65	54	48	47	10	0	20	88	43	22	13	79	47	49	45	48	54	83
Rising Sun 22	49	77	50	40	16	55	10	37	31	49	16	71	59	51	49	16	20	0	81	33	18	10	84	44	47	48	51	42	72
Rockton 316	31	23	46	54	91	21	68	64	58	55	62	13	23	41	31	88	88	81	0	53	59	83	8	26	25	30	41	44	16
Temple 28	51	59	59	49	42	38	20	62	28	58	11	36	44	56	51	40	43	33	53	0	23	29	45	20	28	29	56	12	44
Triandria 780	30	50	40	31	29	35	16	28	15	38	20	46	38	43	30	19	22	18	59	23	0	14	55	28	30	25	43	41	46
Tuscan 342	40	67	40	31	21	46	24	28	26	39	17	58	50	42	40	10	13	10	83	29	14	0	75	37	40	37	42	39	68
Unity 12	24	15	40	32	80	13	57	57	49	48	51	10	15	33	24	80	79	84	7	45	55	75	0	26	25	30	33	43	16
Village 274	25	40	35	33	55	15	31	36	28	40	26	17	25	36	25	48	47	44	26	20	28	37	26	0	9	13	36	27	22
Western Phoenix 42	17	28	29	23	58	7	35	36	32	32	28	16	16	28	17	55	49	47	25	28	30	40	25	9	0	9	28	36	21
Western Reserve 507	16	28	25	19	59	13	36	23	16	26	29	21	16	26	16	46	45	48	30	29	25	37	30	13	9	0	26	37	26
William Farr 672	10	25	6	13	61	29	60	23	43	16	56	39	23	0	10	54	48	51	41	56	43	42	33	36	28	26	0	70	47
Willoughby 302	58	58	70	65	52	49	30	53	36	66	21	42	60	70	58	50	54	42	44	12	41	39	43	27	36	37	70	0	32
W.K. Ricksecker 606	38	30	40	37	82	14	57	50	47	42	53	10	31	47	38	79	83	72	16	44	46	68	16	22	21	26	47	32	0

25th Masonic District Traveling Gavel Mileage Chart